

PELICAN RESCUES KITTEN

(The following few verses were inspired by the sight of the rescue of a kitten from drowning by an old pelican, who actually dove for the cat, thinking it a fish. The kitten got a dying clutch on the bird's neck, and was safely brought ashore, and it is vouched for by the natives that the bird brings fish for the kitten to eat each day and allows the latter to play around him and even sleep on his back.—The Author);

A pelican sat on a rounded stone
By the waters of Tampa Bay;
An orphan he and all alone,
No wife or child to call his own.
And he fished the livelong day.

The sun sank low in the western sky,
He gazed o'er the waters blue,
When an object there he does espy,
And slowly lifts his wings to fly,
Till he gets a closer view.
He circled around with silent whirr,
Then dove with a mighty splash.
But instead of scales this fish had fur
And claws that scratched like a chest-nut-bur,
Which gave him a nasty gash.

Into the air with a scream of pain
The pelican sprang once more;
He flapped his wings with might and main
And flew with the speed of an express train
Back to the distant shore.

But his prey hung fast with a desperate grip,
As he sprang from off the wave;
'Twas a kitten that fell from a passing ship,
And it let no chance like the present slip,
To escape a watery grave.

Darkness fell and the moon did peep
From behind a passing cloud;
She looked across the waters deep
And saw these two, both fast asleep.
With glee, she laughed aloud.
Now the pelican sits no more alone
On the shores of Tampa Bay;
He adopted the kitten for his own;
They live together beside the stone,
And he fishes for both each day.
(P. S.—This story has not been censored by Straub.)—St. Petersburg Independent.

AN APPEAL TO THE GREAT HEARTED

"To the great hearted People of Florida"—people with a capital P. That is the way Napoleon addresses them, and handkerchiefs are in order. It is bewildering, it is glorious, it is magnificent, it is sublime—the profound, the pathetic language used by Governor Broward in his announcement that he is willing to crucify himself upon the senatorial tree on the Golgothan Heights of Washington, D. C., in order that he may be the servant of the capital P. This has the sound of poetry. It came unconsciously but aptly when describing such a sacred sacrifice.

Truly, truly, we have perused many queer documents, but this appeal to his well beloved, in the noble language of Billy Gutterboy, "beats the band." Yes, it even filches from the stunted arboriferous growth its dilapidated drapery. It is about the most original effort we have ever been called upon to consider, and precious hard it is to know just what to make of it.

All Florida was moved by the deep pathos surrounding the death of Senator Bryan, cut off in his youth from a career which should have proven, both brilliant and useful; but we cannot see why the governor should use this sacred shadow to walk in. Did he think that his personality would shine the brighter when displayed under a cloud? Or did he fear to stand on his own merits and felt the need of association with a brighter and better representation?

We will not judge his motive—he must have had one. But we will say that if an announcement of candidacy for office ever sounded with the soft seductive, muffled ding dong of your full fledged demagogue this address of Napoleon to the "great hearted PEOPLE of Florida" so sounds to our unsophisticated ears. And he is confident, too, that all that is necessary is for him to speak and the "great hearted" ones will flock to his standard like hungry chickens to the bread trough. He bewails the fact that he has been compelled to come out so early because otherwise the PEOPLE would never know he was in the swim before the day of the primaries—apparently forgetful that there are telegraph wires, railways and newspapers in our land of flowers.

Well, let him enjoy his sublime confidence in his PEOPLE's devotion. Let us not shock him before the fatal nineteenth day of May by any suggestion that some of the "great hearted" creatures may also have heads on their shoulders—long heads that look into the future and understand that men of the Broward ilk are not the kind to best serve as senators, however honorable the office may be, nor yet to be trusted as faithful, unselfish servants.—Tampa Tribune.

THE REVOLT WILL COME

The high rate of taxation, the direct consequences of the wild extravagances of the "Broward legislature" of 1907, is becoming more and more oppressive and unendurable.

The people, at first, were disposed to accept the situation with something like cheerfulness, because much money was required for the proper establishment and maintenance of the new school system, and because the old war veterans were promised adequate and much needed relief. But, later, it appeared that the appropriations made for educational purposes had to be pared down and the real significance of the new pension law opening the doors of the state treasury to a perfect deluge of unlawful and unrighteous claims began to dawn upon the public mind.

It now seems quite certain that the democrats of Florida awake at last to the significance of actual conditions, are aroused as they have not been under the leadership of Bloxham, Dyke and their associates in the great struggle of 1876, when the galling yoke of republican domination was thrown off, and are now determined not to choose for their legislative representatives such unworthy men as have made the present conditions possible. The legislature of 1909 will not resemble that of 1907. The people will see to it.

As an illustration of the way the new order of things is regarded by non-resident land-owners, we are permitted to quote from letters, such as are frequently received by the tax collector of this county, as follows:

"Find enclosed \$—for my state and county taxes. Should you hear of anyone wanting to buy, please give them my address."

"I am surprised that my taxes are so much * * * I wish we could sell, or rather give it away, as we will have to do."

Doubtless the tax collectors of almost every county in the state are also receiving similar letters.

"There's a good time coming," when the deluded and unthinking element of our population realize the fact that a lot of self-seeking demagogues, by shrieking against the corporations and by shouting other purely populist sentiments, have succeeded in beguiling them into the mistaken policy of discarding the advice and services of those who once received their highest praise for redeeming Florida from conditions very much resembling the conditions which now oppress and threaten them, and replacing those devoted patriots with a collection of unscrupulous, self-seeking place-hunters, whose chief purpose is to dominate every department of our state government that they may fatten upon the substance of the people by unjust and iniquitous taxation.

Sooner or later the revolt will come, many a war has been waged for less cause, and when it does come let those unprincipled demagogues who now hold the people of Florida by the throat beware.—Tallahassee True Democrat.

RIGHT TO REGULATE

Among the resolutions of the Nebraska editors is a protest against the rule of the postoffice department refusing to recognize as legitimate subscribers to newspapers persons long in arrears on their subscription payments. The editors recognize in this rule a stimulus to businesslike methods, but saw in it at the same time an invasion of the publisher's right of implied contract and a governmental interference with the legitimate business relations between the publisher and his patrons.

If the ruling injures the efficiency of the press they ought to protest, and simply on that ground. But in questioning the right of the postoffice department to interfere in this way with their right of contract and their relations with patrons they make the same mistake the railroads made when they opposed the right of the government to regulate them.

By virtue of the special postage rate granted under special conditions to newspapers the newspapers stand in a special relation to the postoffice department. To encourage the dissemination of knowledge weekly papers are allowed to mail papers to subscribers in their own county postage free. To all other papers the low rate of a cent a pound is made. To protect this privilege from abuse it is necessary to adopt restrictive regulations. Papers to go at these privileged rates must go to people who want them, certainly a fair provision. The department thinks that fairly prompt payment for papers is the best evidence that people want a paper, and request the publishers to pay a higher rate of postage open to all citizens when they send papers to any others—that is, the publisher returns to his right of free contract and non-interference by the simple act of giving up his postal privilege. When he accepts the special rate, by that act he contracts to submit to the interference involved in the government's regulations.—Lincoln (Neb) Journal.

WATTERSON ON THE PRESS

Nothing that the great Louisville editor, Hon. Hon. Henry Watterson, said in the course of conversation while in Tampa Sunday was more strongly put and more characteristic of the man than his remarks on the eminence of the newspaper profession.

Mr. Watterson was reminded that he had on numerous occasions been favorably mentioned for high public office, not excluding the presidency. He said:

"A great many people would ordinarily believe that such honorable mention would be accepted by me as a compliment—but I regard it as, rather, a reflection. I have such an exalted idea of the newspaper profession, the work to which I have devoted my life, the standard of character and ability which journalism exacts and exemplifies that I would personally consider election to any office, even to the presidency, anything but a promotion."

Continuing, Mr. Watterson said: "Forty years of ultimate acquaintance with public men, politicians, those who sit in the high places of official power have demonstrated to me conclusively that in the glamour and glare of such careers there is nothing attractive—surely nothing sufficient to lead a self-respecting newspaper man to abandon his own calling for the deceptive and the delirious influences of politics. You may compare the men who have composed the American congress for, say, the past decade, with the men who have, in the same period, composed the newspaper profession of this country, and you will find that neither in ability, in character, in lofty purpose, in power for good have the lawmakers averaged up with the newspaper-makers. This may seem far-fetched, but it is true, as a comparison, man for man, class for class, work for work, will demonstrate to any fair-minded investigator."

"Thus it is that I have always stifled any occasional ambition that may have arisen within me in all these years to descend from the high plane of a journalist to the level of a politician—and I have deliberately ignored all the seductive beckonings of my friends, intent upon thwarting my life-purpose by thrusting me into an arena where frequently one must sacrifice his dearest ideals in order to keep the pace or forfeit his self-respect that he may receive the plaudits of others, who, nine times out of ten, flatter you that they may lead you astray and fawn upon you that they may despoil you."

Asked for an idea as to the great need of the newspaper profession in this country today, the desideratum for its further uplift and improvement, Mr. Watterson declared with much feeling:

"More truth—not the truth of expediency, but the genuine, the unsalable truth. The unvarying printing of truth by the press, regardless of whom it may help or hurt, will make the press really what it should be, the controlling force of this nation. It would thus become a power greater than party, for the truth would often wipe out party lines; and it would create a sentiment in this country which would absolutely insure, upon whatever question, in the solution of whatever problem, the triumph of Justice, Liberty and Righteousness."—Tampa Evening News.

DEATH WAS ON HIS HEELS

Jesse P. Morris of Skippers, Va., had a close call in the spring of 1906. He says: "An attack of pneumonia left me so weak and with such a fearful cough that my friends declared consumption had me, and death was on my heels. Then I was persuaded to try Dr. King's New Discovery. It helped me immediately, and after taking two and a half bottles, I was a well man again. I found out that New Discovery was the best remedy for coughs and lung disease in all the world." Sold under guarantee at T. D. King & Co's Drugstore. 50 and \$1. Trial bottle free.

IF ROOSEVELT, NOT BRYAN

The New York World's special representative interviewed Senator Tillman at his home at Trenton, S. C., and the following is the result of the interview:

"Senator, what do you think of Bryan's chances for nomination?" was asked.

"Well, it all depends upon one thing; if the republicans nominate Taft I think that the democrats will nominate Bryan and that he will win. However, should the republicans tie their convention up in a deadlock and stampede it with Roosevelt, I do not think that we could nominate Bryan, because he has praised the president's policies too much. Third termism would be his only weapon."

In this event he could not say who might be the nominee. Senator Tillman is improving plans to go abroad this summer and hopes to take part in the national campaign in October.

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SOUNDING THE CANDIDATES

Wants to Know if They Will Ignore Recommendations of County Executive Committees

The resolution passed by the democratic executive committee of Hillsborough county at the meeting held March 21, which condemned the action of Gov. N. B. Broward, in making appointments to county offices, where vacancies occur, without consulting with the county executive committee, has been widely discussed in the state press.

The resolution was supplemented by another resolution, which instructed Secretary Harry Howard to write each of the candidates for governor and get an expression from them as to whether or not they favored consulting with the committeemen before making appointments. Mr. Howard did so, and today he received a letter from Hon. Albert W. Gilchrist of Punta Gorda and one from Hon. Jefferson B. Brown of Key West, both of whom are candidates for governor.

Both gentlemen are in favor of consulting the wishes of the committeemen, and in Mr. Gilchrist's case, he favors going even further and holding a primary, if it is possible, so as to let the people make the choice. Mr. Gilchrist's letter follows:

"Jacksonville, April 1, -908.

"Harry Howard, Secretary Democratic Executive Committee of Hillsborough County, Tampa, Fla.:

"Dear Sir—Yours dated March 25 has been forwarded to Jacksonville from Punta Gorda. My position in reference to the appointments by the governor to fill vacancies is made plain in a general address I am sending out to every voter in the state. Whenever practical, a primary election should be called and the governor's appointments made to conform with the result of the same. Whenever vacancy occurs in county office and it is inconvenient for a primary to be held, then I would insist upon a recommendation by the county democratic executive committee and the appointment would be made on their recommendation, or upon the recommendation of primary, as the case may be. Very truly yours,

"ALBERT W. GILCHRIST."

Mr. Browne's letter follows:

"Key West, Fla., March 31, 1908.

"Harry Howard, Secretary of Executive Committee, Hillsborough Co.:

"Dear Sir—I am in receipt of your communication of March 25, relative to filling vacancies that may occur in different counties.

"In reply thereto would say that if I am elected governor, I shall fill all vacancies occurring during my administration upon the recommendation of the county democratic executive committee. Respectfully,

"JEFFERSON B. BROWNE."

Mr. Howard stated to a Times representative that during J. N. C. Stockton's visit here the early part of this week, he had asked Mr. Stockton to let him have an answer to a similar communication addressed to him, and that Mr. Stockton has promised to write the communication. The letter has not yet reached Mr. Howard. Secretary Howard was the author of each of the resolutions before the executive committee on March 21.—Tampa Times.

HAD NEVER SEEN FLORIDA

The following clipping, taken some twenty-five years ago from a paper by Chas. Lord of this city and preserved until the present time, is interesting from the fact that it has the earmarks of a joke pure and simple, says the Orlando Reporter-Star:

"It is reported of John Randolph of Roanoke, that when the purchase of Florida, from the Spanish government, was under discussion in the house, he cried out from the floor of congress, in his high, harsh voice: 'Mr. Speaker, I am opposed to this measure. Florida, sir, is not worth buying. It is a land of swamps and quagmires, or frogs and alligators and mosquitoes! A man, sir, would not immigrate into Florida. No, sir! No man would immigrate into Florida—no, not from hell itself!'"

If John Randolph could visit Florida today and see the "land of promise," comments the Reporter-Star, what a revelation it would be to him. Instead of being hell it is as close to the modern paradise as earthly man will ever get, and to us folks who are natives the expression of Randolph, made so many years ago, induces a broad smile.

Randolph in his day was very much like people of the present day, who regard the south as a torrid, arid desert, given over to insects and alligators and only a personal visit will ever satisfy them of the reverse.

One visitor to Florida can do more to dispel this erroneous idea than all the words in the English language in printed form, and all the visitors to Orlando this season will return home laden with views, good literature, and best of all, good health, to proselyte among their friends regarding the advantages of the greatest state of the Union.

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"They can't get anything but.....now, sir; everything else is gone."

What is the Word?

For full particulars of the contest write

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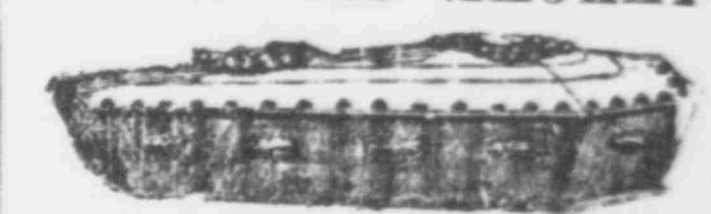
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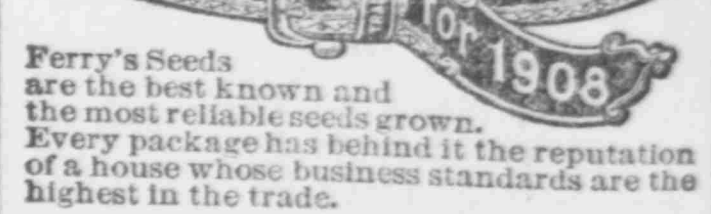
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